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## WEST VIRGINIA HOG INVENTORY

**WEST VIRGINIA -- Inventory of all hogs and pigs** on December 1, 2004, was 10,000 head, unchanged from December 1, 2003. Of the 10,000 head, 2,000 were for breeding; unchanged from 2003. The breakdown of the remaining 8,000 market hogs and pigs was as follows: 2,000 head were under 60 pounds; 1,000 were from 60-119 pounds; 1,000 were from 120-179 pounds; and 4,000 were 180 pounds and over.

**Annual pig crop** totaled 18,200 head, 2 percent below the 2003 pig crop. Sows farrowing from December 2003 through November 2004 totaled 2,300 head, down 8 percent from the previous year. Pigs per litter averaged 7.91 pigs, up 7 percent from 2003, at 7.40 pigs.

**UNITED STATES -- Inventory of all hogs and pigs** on December 1, 2004 was 60.5 million head. This was up slightly from December 1, 2003, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2004

**Breeding inventory**, at 5.97 million head, was down 1 percent from December 1, 2003, but up slightly from last quarter. **Market hog inventory**, at 54.5 million head, was up slightly from last year, but 2 percent below last quarter.

**The September-November 2004 U.S. pig crop**, at 25.6 million head, was up slightly from 2003 and up 2 percent from 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.85 million head, down slightly from last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 8.96 for the September-November period, compared to 8.93 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

**U.S. hog producers** intend to have 2.86 million sows farrow during the December 2004-February 2005 quarter, 1 percent above the actual farrows during the same period in 2004, and 3 percent above 2003. Intended farrowings for March-May 2005, at 2.87 million sows, are down slightly from the same period in 2004, and down 1 percent from the same period in 2003.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 38 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 35 percent last year.

**Revisions** - All inventory and pig crop estimates for March 2003 through September 2004 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, small revisions, not exceeding one-half of one percent were made to the June 2004 total inventory, March-May 2004 pig crop, December-February 2004 pig crop, September-November 2003 pig crop, June-August 2003 pig crop and the September 2003 total inventory. Adjustments of less than one-tenth of one percent were made to the remaining quarters.